AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS:

The following claim set replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (currently amended) An aqueous coating composition with an improved open time comprising:
   a) 1 to 35 wt % of a crosslinkable water-dispersible oligomer(s);
   b) 4 to 50 wt % of a dispersed polymer(s);
   c) 3 to 75 wt % of at least one pigment ~~a pigment(s)~~ with an oil absorption number ≤25g oil/100g pigment;
   d) 0 to 10 wt % of at least one [[a]] Newtonian-like ~~thickener(s)~~ thickener;
   e) 0 to 10 wt % of at least one [[a]] thixotropic ~~thickener(s)~~ thickener;
   f) 0 to 20 wt % of co-solvent;
   g) 10 to 80 wt % of water;
   where a) +b) +c) +d) +e) +f) +g) = 100%; wherein
   the weight ratio of a) : b) is in the range of from 10:90 to 60:40; and wherein
   d) + e) = 0. 1 to 10 wt % and impart a shear ratio to the composition which is in the range of from 1 to 20 at a shear rate of 10 s^{-1} and 1,000 s^{-1}, and wherein [[said]]
   the composition when drying to form a coating has a tack-free time of ≤ 24 hours.

2. (previously presented) An aqueous composition according to claim 1 wherein the crosslinkable oligomer(s) is a self-crosslinkable oligomer(s).

3. (previously presented) An aqueous composition according to claim 1 wherein the crosslinkable oligomer(s) is selected from a group consisting of polyurethane oligomer(s), vinyl oligomer(s), polyamide oligomer(s), polyether oligomer(s), polysiloxane oligomer(s), polyester oligomer(s), hyperbranched oligomer(s) and/or mixtures thereof.

4. (previously presented) An aqueous composition according to claim 1 wherein the crosslinkable oligomer(s) has an acid value in the range of from 0 to 80 mg KOH/g.

5. (previously presented) An aqueous composition according to claim 1 wherein the crosslinkable oligomer(s) has a measured weight average molecular weight in the range of from 1,000 to 100,000 Daltons.

6. (previously presented) An aqueous composition according to claim 1 wherein the crosslinkable oligomer(s) is less than 70% by weight soluble in water throughout a pH range of from 2 to 10.

7. (previously presented) An aqueous composition according to claim 1 wherein the crosslinkable oligomer(s) has a measured Tg in the range of from -120 to 250°C.

8. (previously presented) An aqueous composition according to claim 1 wherein the dispersed polymer(s) has a measured weight average molecular weight ≥ 110,000 Daltons.

9. (previously presented) An aqueous composition according to claim 1 wherein the dispersed polymer(s) has an average particle size in the range of from 25 to 1000 nm.

10. (previously presented) An aqueous composition according to claim 1 wherein the dispersed polymer(s) has a measured Tg in the range of from -50 to 300°C.

11. (previously presented) An aqueous composition according to claim 1 wherein the dispersed polymer(s) is a vinyl polymer.

12. (original) An aqueous composition according to claim 11 wherein the dispersed vinyl polymer has 10 to 50 wt % of a soft part with a measured Tg in the range of

from -30 to 20°C and 50 to 90 wt % of a hard part with a measured Tg in the range of from 60 to 110°C.

13. (previously presented) An aqueous composition according to claim 11 wherein the dispersed vinyl polymer(s) comprises:
    - I. 15 to 80 wt % of styrene and/or α-methylstyrene;
    - II. 0 to 50 wt % of one or more of methyl (meth)acrylate, ethyl (meth)acrylate, cyclohexyl (meth)acrylate and n-butyl (meth)acrylate;
    - III. 0 to 7 wt % of a vinyl monomer(s) containing a carboxylic acid group(s);
    - IV. 0 to 10 wt % of a vinyl monomer(s) containing a non-ionic water-dispersing group(s);
    - V. 5 to 40 wt % of a vinyl monomer(s) other than as in I to IV, VI and VII ;
    - VI. 0 to 5 wt % of a vinyl monomer(s) containing wet adhesion promoter or crosslinker groups (excluding any within the scope of III and VII); and
    - VII. 0 to 8 wt % of a polyethylenically unsaturated vinyl monomer, wherein I) + II) add up to at least 50% and I + II+ III + IV + V + VI + VII add up to 100%.

14. (previously presented) An aqueous composition according to claim 1 wherein the pigment volume concentration is in the range of from 1 to 48 wt %.

15. (previously presented) An aqueous composition according to claim 1 wherein the pigment(s) has a water absorption number ≤ 40 cm^3 / 100g pigment.

16. (previously presented) An aqueous composition according to claim 1 wherein the composition comprises 0.1 to 10 wt% of d) the Newtonian-like thickener.

17. (previously presented) An aqueous composition according to claim 1 wherein the composition comprises 0.1 to 10 wt% of e) the thixotropic thickener.

18. (previously presented) An aqueous composition according to claim 1 wherein the ratio of Newtonian-like to thixotropic thickener is in the range of from 95:5 to 30:70.

19. (previously presented) An aqueous composition according to claim 1 wherein the co-solvent to water ratio is below 0.8.

20. (currently amended) An aqueous composition according to claim 1 wherein the improved open time is at least 3 minutes longer than a reference formulation which comprises similar amounts of components a), b), f) and g), a pigment with an oil absorption number >32g oil/100g pigment, and a pseudoplastic thickener.

21. (previously presented) An aqueous composition according to claim 1 wherein the open time is at least 9 minutes.

22. (previously presented) An aqueous composition according to claim 1 wherein said composition has an equilibrium viscosity ≤ 500 Pa.s, during the first 10 minutes of drying when measured using any shear rate in the range of from 0.01 ± 0.005 to 900 ± 5 s^{-1} and at 23 +/- 2°C.

23. (canceled)

24. (currently amended) A coating ~~obtainable~~ obtained from an aqueous composition according to claim 1.

25. (previously presented) A method for coating a substrate using an aqueous composition according to claim 1.

26. (previously presented) A substrate coated with an aqueous composition according to claim 1.